



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Reducing Unmet Need for Family Planning: Lessons Learned from the VisayasHealth Project

Jose R. Rodriguez, MD, MPH

Chief of Party

VisayasHealth Project

Introduction: The VisayasHealth Project

- 5 Year Project funded by USAID
- Implemented by EngenderHealth
- Designed to strengthen the provision of MNCHN/FP services in the Visayas



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Introduction: The VH Project

- Covers 8 provinces and 7 independent and highly urbanized cities in the Visayas (14 M, 1.7M SWRA)
- Started in 2013



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Introduction: The situation in 2013: A program in extremis



- FP program was in pretty bad shape
- Modern method use stagnated
- 2-method program: pills and DMPA
- FP training system was in disarray: no trainers and no preceptor sites



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Introduction: The situation in 2013: A program in extremis

- Access to LAPM was almost nonexistent
- Many missed opportunities: increasing facility based deliveries and FP benefits offered under the NHIP



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Introduction: What was done: Placed the program in the ICU



- Intensive and massive capacity building for FP: PFP, implants, hospitals
- Outreach FP services
- Fixed and debugged the FP training system
- Demand generation: mobilizing satisfied users
- Accreditation of facilities and providers

Number of providers trained on LAPM in the Visayas from 2013-2016

Type of Method	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Visayas	22	201	395	234	852
PPIUD	22	56	137	119	334
IUD			73	64	137
BTL-MLLA			10	28	38
NSV			4	23	27
PSI		145	171	0	316



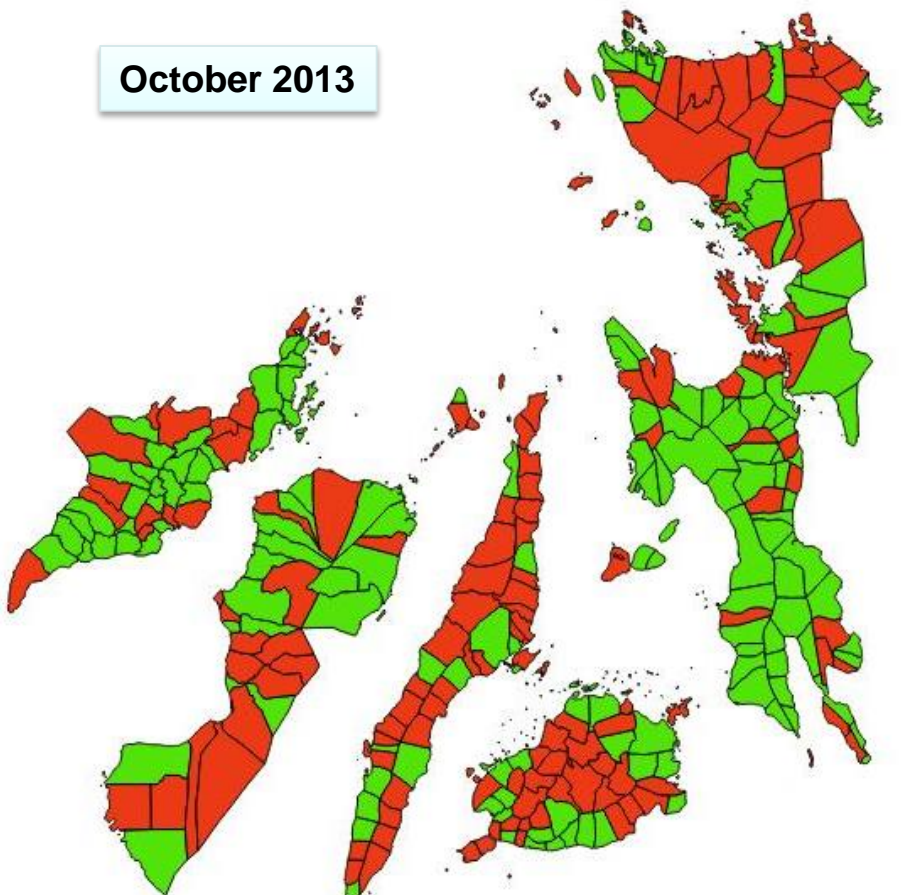
USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



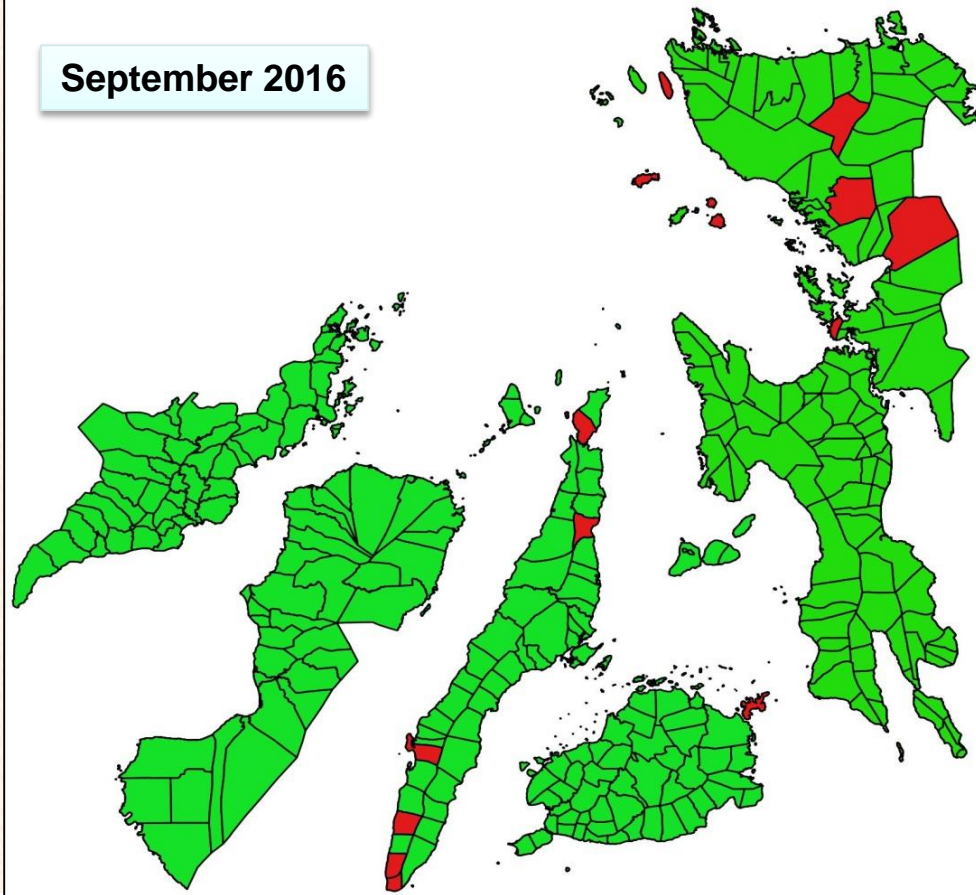
EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

The results: More LGUs providing LAPM services: from 38% in 2013 to 96% in 2016

October 2013

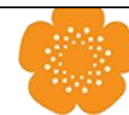


September 2016



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

- Presence of LAPM
- Absence of LAPM



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

PHIC Accredited FP Providers

Type of FP Method	October 2014	September 2016 [^]
Total	0	333
PPIUD	0	186
IUD	0	127
BTL	0	15
NSV	0	5

[^]Cumulative Accomplishment



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Number of New Acceptors for LAPM 2014 and 2016

LAPM Services	2014	2016
Total	19,416	70,816
BTL	4,510	4,466
NSV	198	695
IUD	5,530	58,429
PPIUD	2,333	4,869
Subdermal Implants	6,845	3,183

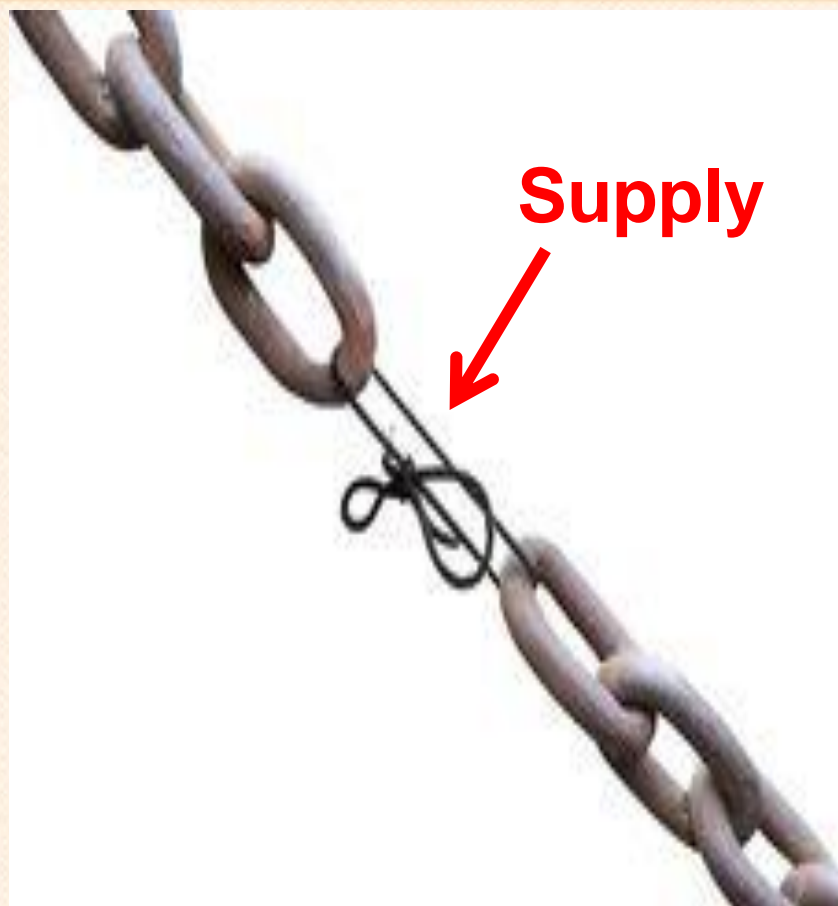


USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned



1. One cannot create demand for FP in a vacuum. Supply was the weakest link in the program's value chain



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned

2. Provider competence can never be taken for granted. Even if the provider is trained.

- Timing of IUD insertion
- Differentiating between a normal cervix from an infected one
- Measuring uterine depth
- Ruling out pregnancy



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned

3. There is a method to the training madness

- Establishment of preceptor sites
- Use of self-instructional materials
- Post-training monitoring and evaluation
- Certification and accreditation



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

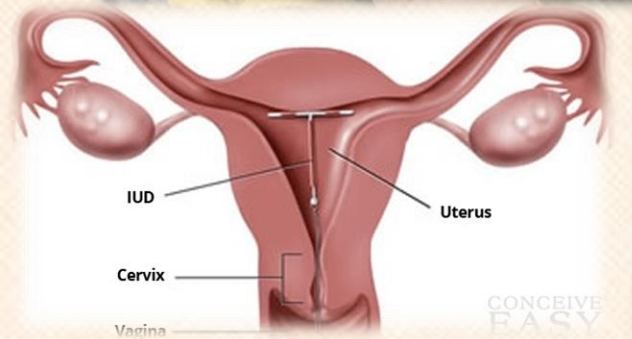


EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned



4. Offering more choices for women is the most effective way of reducing unmet need for FP and increasing contraceptive use



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned

5. Reduction of unmet need can only happen when health providers step out of the comfort of their clinic walls.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned

6. Rumours, myths and misconceptions are the FP program's worst enemies. Satisfied users offer the most effective and most credible defense against them.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Simple random survey results in Inayawan Health District, Cebu City pre and post introduction of LAPM plus demand generation mobilizing satisfied users

	Dec 2015	July 2016
Unmet need for Family Planning	24.4%	7%
Modern CPR	23.8%	56.7%

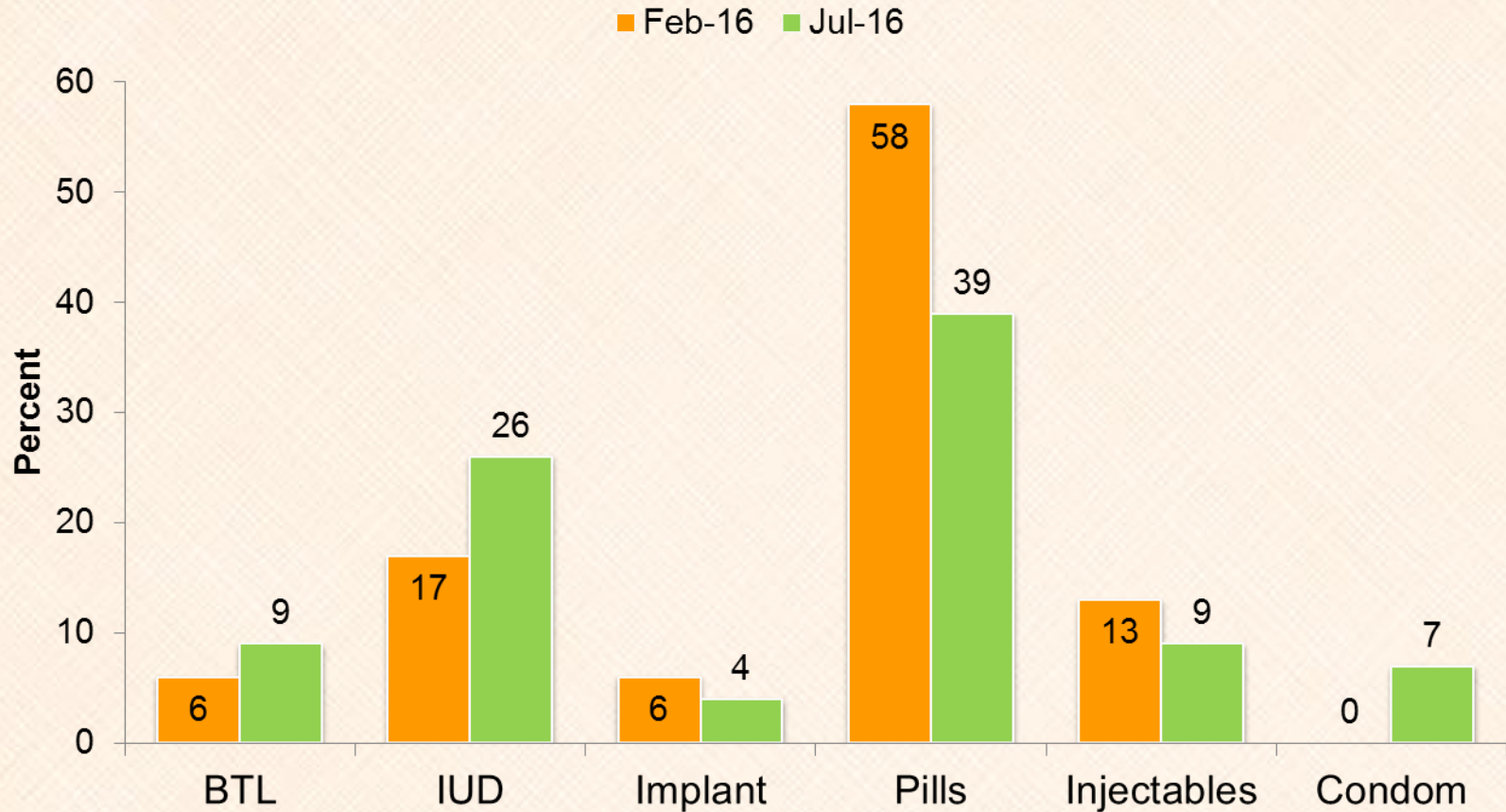


USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Method Mix among NHTS women in Inayawan Health Area, July 2016



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned

7. Safety in numbers: Events based FP provision is effective in attracting women who prefer to avail of services in a group setting

- Do family planning days work?
- Critical mass
- The tipping point



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned

8. Outreach services make perfect sense in areas without trained providers

- The power of the NGO and private sector
- Going to places where angels fear to tread



Lessons Learned

9. The FP benefit package under the NHIP is an effective motivator for providers but getting providers certified and accredited is a veritable minefield

- Different procedures and guidelines for DOH certification
- Varying interpretation of PHIC accreditation requirements



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

Lessons Learned

10. Hospital (Devolved) facilities are the last frontier that offer monumental challenges to the FP program

- “Curative” culture
- Cumulative effect of years of neglect
- Heavily subsidized by the provincial governments
- Many disincentives to good performance



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life

“Challenges are what make life interesting;
Overcoming them is what makes life
meaningful”

J J Marine



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



EngenderHealth PHILIPPINES
for a better life